

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: North Pole****Project Title:****North Pole - North Pole Economic Development Project****State Funding Requested: \$ 40,000****House District: 11 - F**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Create a non-profit Economic Development Corporation to develop a long-term economic development plan for the City of North Pole and the surrounding area between the east boundary of Fort Wainwright and the west boundary of Eielson Air Force Base.

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$125,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Local Funds	\$85,000	09				
Total	\$85,000					

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

The City of North Pole is the location of two refineries. Until recently the refineries and Santa Claus House were the main contributors to the economy of North Pole. In December of 2007, Ice Alaska joined with local sponsors to hold the first annual North Pole Ice Carving Competition, attracting ice carvers from all over the world. The City of North Pole would like to hire a person to develop a non-profit economic development corporation which can prepare a long range economic development plan to expand the tourism industry in North Pole, including hotels a theme park, and expand the economic base into an industrial park working in conjunction with the Alaska Railroad's plans to realign the railroad from 9-mile Richardson Highway to the North Pole Refinery and extend the railroad to a site on the Tanana River where a bridge will be built across the river to potentially the largest military training grounds in the world.

**Project Timeline:**

Secure funding - July 2009.

Hire economic development planner - September 2009

Economic development plan - July 2010

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

City of North Pole

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No